

# THE LANCASTER NEWS

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## GERMANS PLANNED TO SET PARIS AFIRE

### Made Preparations to Drop Torches from Aeroplanes and Bomb the Firemen.

### THERE WERE MANY RAIDS

### Lucius Bennett Writes Quoting Paris Newspaper as Saying 1,211 Were Killed and Injured January to October.

Carl G. Bennett has received the following letter from his brother, Lucius Bennett, 14th Co., 2nd Regt., Air Service Mechanics, St. Mazaire, France:

Paris, like London, is engaged in making up the account the Gerians will have to settle for the satisfaction of having bombarded the city by aeroplanes, Zeppelins, and long range guns.

The air raids began very early in the war. When Von Kluck thought he had Paris at his mercy in August, 1914, Taubes flew over the city dropping bombastic manifestos. When the great coup failed the air raids began and the Figaro gives the following tables of the city's experiences:

Paris (excluding suburbs), bombs dropped—1914, 45; 1915, 70; 1916, 61; 1917, 14.

On October 11th, 1914, 17 missiles were dropped and 62 on March 20th, 1915. Then the big series of raids commenced with the following results:

1918—January to October.

Zeppelins and aeroplanes, bombs, 228; killed, 206; injured, 392.

Big Bertha shell, bombs, 168; killed, 196; injured, 417.

Total bombs, 396; killed, 402; injured, 809.

Total casualties, 1,211.

The worst day of the bombardment was March 23, 1919, with 21 shells and the worst day of the air raids was January 30, 1918, with 89 bombs dropped, killing 36 people and wounding 192.

The Figaro adds that the Germans had yet more frightfulness in preparation. A great plan had been matured to set Paris on fire. Small incendiary bombs had been prepared. Each aeroplane could carry 200 of these and it was proposed to send 35 machines and drop at least 5,000 of these fire brands. While the fire brigades were engaged in these further flotilla was to attack the city and bombard the crowds of helpers which were sure to have gathered.

The figures given above are for Paris only. The raids which have taken place over the various towns of France, must run into thousands, and from no criterion to compare with the 60 aeroplanes and 53 air-ship raids on England, in which 1,413 people were killed and 3,407 injured.

From the above figures you can see that the worst raids occurred during my stay in Paris. On several occasions we had as many as three or four raids in one night. I think there is a mistake in the figures given by the Figaro on the number of shells fired into Paris by Big Bertha, as one day I counted them myself and about ten were fired in the city at the rate of one about every fourteen minutes, and others at longer intervals which made a total of about twenty that day. At that rate there is undoubtedly a mistake, as they were kept up for quite a while. I was only a few blocks from where several exploded in Paris, and on one occasion was only one block when it exploded and killed several people. Was there in less than a minute after it happened. The raids were wonderful to look at at night. Near the French camp where I was stationed there was an old castle high up on a hill overlooking Paris, where you could see for miles around you. We would get up on top of this and watch the raids. I've never seen anything as beautiful as the display shown, the shells from the anti-aircraft guns bursting for miles all around you. The Hun planes above you didn't sound so good, but we knew they couldn't see us, so took it all in with the greatest of ease. The bombs falling and bursting didn't

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## SERVED TWO COUNTRIES

(Editorial in Columbia Record.)

In a recent statement by the Associated Press, it was declared that Elliott Springs, of Lancaster, S. C., an American ace, had brought down nine enemy planes. This statement was a surprise to South Carolinians who had followed with interest the career of Captain Springs. He is known to have brought down a great many more planes than the number given in the record.



In the Independent for December 7, 1918, there is a statement by Lawrence LaTourette Driggs "who" says the editor of the Independent, "is himself an aviator and an authority on aerial warfare and is writing regularly for the Independent on aviation in England and at the front." In this statement Mr. Driggs says "Elliott Springs, of South Carolina, who was elected by Bishop with two other Americans to form members of his new aviation squadron last spring, now has a squadron of his own and on August 1 last had destroyed his fifteenth Hun."

In the New York Times of recent date Col. William A. Bishop the brilliant British ace, referred to by Driggs, and is said to have the world's record of 73 planes, without about 40 others not officially recorded, made this statement: "The American aviators did themselves proud in the war. Two or three were attached to each English squadron that went to France. I took three in my picked squadron, Elliott Springs, who got fifteen machines; Gridler, since killed, and Calahan of Chicago, who downed ten Huns."

Driggs and Colonel Bishop both gave Elliott Springs credit for fifteen machines destroyed before he left the British air service. The record of nine machines credited to him should be added to the above, evidently. For he brought down nine after he left the British service and joined the Americans. It will be a difficult matter to get any further information, for the bravest of the brave, the aces of Britain and America, cannot be induced to say very much about their exploits. Elliott Springs will be home in a few weeks, and it would be a rare treat to hear his descriptions of fights in air, as well as to learn how a battle on the ground is viewed as from the air. But the splendid ethical code of the airmen does not permit them to do much talking. Or has not done so while the war was being pursued. However, the point of this story is that Elliott Springs really is entitled to an official record of 24 machines destroyed—and others brought down for which he gets no credit as he had no observer on the ground to mark their fall.

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## TEACHERS' MEETING TO BE AN INTERESTING EVENT

Strong Feature of Program Will Be Address By Prof. James M. Ariail, of Columbia College.

(By V. A. LINGLE.)

The next regular meeting of the Lancaster County Teachers' association, the February meeting, will be held in the auditorium of the Central graded school building, February 8, and not only are all progressive teachers in the county who have this important part of their work at heart, very earnestly urged to be present, but also the trustees of the county and all others as well interested in their country's welfare and educational prosperity are cordially invited to attend, and thus, by their presence and co-operation lend sympathetic encouragement to the teachers.

An unusually interesting and profitable program is being worked out and arranged for the meeting on the second Saturday of February, and if weather conditions are favorable at the time, it is believed that this meeting of the county teachers will not only be one of the very best, but numerically, will be the biggest, probably, ever held in the Lancaster graded schools. A complete program will be published next week in the county papers.

The first number of this program, which will be noted with much interest and approval by his many friends and acquaintances in Lancaster, is an address to the association by Prof. James Milton Ariail, of Columbia college. Prof. Ariail is conceded to be one of the strongest school men in South Carolina, and is a public speaker of no ordinary ability. It is believed, therefore, that those who attend the approaching school meeting in Lancaster will find in Prof. Ariail's address a rare educational treat and will be highly pleased with his manner of address.

The meeting will begin at 11 o'clock in the morning of the 8th, and every one is requested to be in the school building by that time. The teachers are going to considerable expense to make this meeting one of Lancaster's best, if not the very best in the history of the county's pedagogical association.

## MRS. ADA McNEELY IS DEAD AT TRADESVILLE

End Came Friday Morning Following Long Illness—Wife of Robt. McNeely.

Tradesville, S. C., Jan. 27.—Please allow space in the columns of your valuable paper for a few remarks from our quiet village, which seemeth dead, though in reality only sleepeth. As a writer, this scribe only comes occasionally, therefore should be excused for any seeming misrepresentation.

The "flu" situation in this community is almost anything but pleasant. Only a few deaths from the effects of this epidemic but several are yet sick. On this account the Tradesville school is closed temporarily.

Mrs. Ada McNeely, wife of Robert McNeely, of Tradesville, died early Friday morning following a long illness. She was a daughter of the late Wesley Hunter and was thirty-six years of age, a consistent member of the Baptist church and died in full faith. She was laid to rest in the church cemetery Saturday afternoon, January 18, the Rev. J. A. Bledsoe officiating. Surviving her is a grief stricken husband, mother, two brothers and four sisters.

Mr. W. C. Funderburk, of Will Point, Texas, is visiting relatives and friends in this community after an absence of 20 years.

Mr. Dan Knight and Miss Halley McManus, of Tradesville, were married on the 12th instant.

## Harmonious Session Held.

Paris, Jan. 27.—The conference of representatives of the smaller powers adjourned at 5 o'clock this afternoon after a most agreeable and harmonious session. The delegates completed their representations to the conference committee without incident.

## British Forces Advance.

Amsterdam, Jan. 27.—British forces, according to a report received here from Berlin today, have advanced from Baku and occupy the trans-Caucasian railway. The report adds that the British also have occupied Petrovsk and Astrakhan, at the mouth of the Volga river.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD IN SESSION HERE

Representatives of South Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs Meet.

MANY MATTERS DISCUSSED

Proposed Legislation for Memorial Park in Memory of South Carolinians Who Died in France is Endorsed.

(By MISS MARGARET MOORE.)

The mid-winter meeting of the executive board of the South Carolina Federation of Women's clubs was held in Lancaster at the home of the president, Mrs. Leroy Springs. The members were invited to be the house guests of Mrs. Springs. For various reasons the attendance was small.

Although the meeting was no large much was accomplished. A request sent in by Miss Julia Irby, chairman of the health department, and in keeping with the desire of the federation to assist in the movement to improve public health conditions, the special health fund now in the treasury was appropriated for the training of a graduate nurse for special public health work. This action was taken by the board at this time because of the information received from Miss Irby that a free scholarship was now available at the Richmond hospital, and therefore training could be secured by a small expenditure for board.

At the request of the South Carolina department of health, Mrs. Springs reported that an effort is now being made to secure nurses for the influenza fight.

The bill to be put before the state legislature asking for an appropriation that will in part cover the expenses of a memorial park in Columbia in honor of the boys who have fallen in France, was heartily endorsed by the board.

A bill was also endorsed for the establishment of free kindergartens in the state. Support was also pledged to the library bill, which the library department of the federation is urging.

Three new clubs were reported as having joined the federation, two in Columbia, the Thursday Study club and the Columbia equal suffrage league, and one in Kershaw, the Mother's Twentieth Century club.

It was asked that all clubs be urged to pay their pledge to the special educational fund. And all club members were urged to subscribe to the general federation magazine that South Carolina might redeem its pledge of a subscription for each of the 135 federated clubs.

The president reported the names of successful candidates, who will represent South Carolina in the overseas unit of the central federation. The board received fifteen applicants, six of whom were recommended for general federation of women's clubs' personnel board in New York. Three of these young women, Misses Anita DeSausseuse, of Charleston; Emma Salley, of Columbia, and Genevieve Wilcox, of Murrell's Inlet, have been called to New York for the conference of workers and will doubtless receive final acceptance at the hands of the board. The unit will sail on the sixth of February. Each state was entitled to two representatives. South Carolina was given the privilege of sending one additional hostess to represent Kentucky, which had no candidate. The expenses of the unit will be met by the war victory fund to which South Carolina club women have contributed.

The movement known as the school garden army whereby the young people in the secondary schools are taught something of gardening by an expert was endorsed by the board. Every club member is asked to support this movement in her county.

Several amendments to the constitution were discussed—notably the question of the creation of a nominating committee, which was endorsed by the 1917 board.

The board also heartily endorsed the proposed establishment of a scholarship loan fund to replace the

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## BAER SPEAKS HERE ON THURSDAY NIGHT

Will Attend Luncheon of Automobile Association and Make an Address.

PROBABLY OTHERS SPEAK

Meeting Planned Has Every Prospect of Large Attendance and Interest in Good Roads is Growing.

Carl J. Baer, of the Community Development association, of Chicago, has wired the secretary of the Lancaster County Automobile association that he will be present at the luncheon to be given by the association Thursday night at seven o'clock and will make an address on good roads and community building. Mr. Baer will speak at Chester at noon Thursday and at Lancaster at night.

There is every prospect that the luncheon and meeting of the association will be a successful affair. Cards were sent out last week to all members and to other representative men, these to be signed and returned if the parties addressed would attend. About fifty per cent of the cards have been returned and others are expected today and tomorrow. They should not be returned later than tomorrow.

Interest in good roads, which is the primary purpose of the organization is increasing and included in the membership are men from not only the city of Lancaster, but from Heath Springs and Kershaw and the rural communities of the county. Since the organization meeting Wednesday night of last week a number of new members has been added to the list and indications are that this association will be one of the best in the state.

The luncheon will be held in the Red Cross rooms, over the Bank of Lancaster, instead of the Pyley building as was first announced. It will be served by the King's Daughters.

## FORT MILL WOODMEN AT ANNUAL BANQUET

Enjoyable Affair Friday Night—Mr. and Mrs. Alex Barber Entertain B. Y. P. U.

Fort Mill, S. C., Jan. 27.—A very pleasant reception was held Thursday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Barber, the affair being under the auspices of the Baptist Young Peoples' union and was in honor of William A. Roach, a prominent member of the society who is leaving Fort Mill to make his future home in Lumberton, N. C.

The annual banquet of the White Oak camp, Woodmen of the World, was held Friday evening in the armory and, despite the fact that so many homes are stricken with influenza, the affair was well attended and a most pleasant evening spent. There were short addresses at the conclusion of the dinner by prominent local speakers.

Water Banks Meacham returned to his home in Fort Mill Thursday morning after receiving an honorable discharge from the naval service in which he enlisted several months ago. He will resume his duties as cashier of the Savings bank of Fort Mill.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hall left Thursday night for a visit of some weeks to relatives in Atlanta, Ga., and other cities in that section.

Mrs. F. E. Ardrey has returned from an extended visit to relatives in Florence.

Miss Bess Spratt has returned from a visit to friends in Sumter.

## THE BODY OF RICHLY CLAD WOMAN IS FOUND IN JERSEY

Tenafly, N. J., Jan. 27.—Hunters today discovered the body of a richly clad young woman concealed by two huge boulders at one of the loveliest spots on the Palisades, overlooking the Hudson.

The fact was swathed in bandages, cover which apparently had been poured the contents of a chloroform bottle, found nearby. The young woman appeared to have been dead three or four weeks and the body was frozen.

## ADVISES SOUTH TO "ADJUST" ACREAGE

United States Department of Agriculture Issues Statement on Cotton.

LESS COTTON; MORE FOOD

Farmers are Urged to Produce Less of Single Money Crop and More of the Necessary Supplies.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Farmers of the south were advised, in a statement issued by the department of agriculture, that it would be wise to adjust cotton acreage this year so as to have available sufficient land to produce enough food and feed for their families and live stock.

"If the industrial conditions in all the cotton consuming countries do not reach normal, and if the industry is not restored, the consumption of cotton will be substantially less than pre-war acreage requirements," said the statement. "With practically complete restoration cotton consumption may well be expected to equal the normal or pre-war times on account of the present shortage of cotton goods in various countries. The economies which the peoples of Europe must practice for years to come must be considered."

Average requirements outside the United States were given as 13,010,000 bales, domestic requirements 6,600,000 bales. The American 1918 crop is estimated at 11,700,000 bales. After domestic consumption requirements are taken care of there will be an exportable surplus of 1,100,000 bales. Other producing countries have an estimated surplus of about 3,180,000 bales, making total present surplus stocks for the world about 8,280,000 bales, against 13,010,000 bales in requirements. The apparent deficit therefore is 4,730,000 bales, the department's statement says, but from this gross amount should be deducted the carry over at the end of the 1918-19 season. Unless there is a very marked increase in exports there will be a considerable carry over. Estimates of the carry over are placed at 3,230,000 bales. With a carry over of that amount the apparent deficit is reduced to 1,500,000 bales.

Pointing out that the 1918 yield was greatly decreased by unfavorable weather, the department's statement said the same acreage this year, with average weather, would produce at least 2,000,000 bales more than the 1918 crop.

"In many sections of the South," said the statement, "diversified farming should be practiced to a larger extent. Many farms and plantations are still devoted entirely to cotton and fail to produce sufficient foodstuffs for the families or feed for the live stock. Such a system is hazardous, since success or failure is dependent upon a single crop, subjected to the influence of the weather, diseases, transportation and markets. A careful study of the situation, has resulted in the recommendation that each farm, each community and each section of the south should produce as far as possible its own food and feed for the sake of economical production and to save transportation costs and intervening profits where the purchase must be made from distant sections. In other words, the food and feed of the south should be produced on the farms of the south."

## VIRGINIA AUTHORITIES ARE SEARCHING FOR DR. HADLEY

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 27.—Cincinnati relatives of Mrs. Susie Tinsley Hadley, wife of Dr. Wilmer Ames Hadley, former army officer, who is being sought on a warrant charging him with the murder of his wife, according to Richmond, Va., authorities, left Cincinnati tonight for Richmond to bring the body to Cincinnati for burial.

Mrs. Hadley's body was found lodged in roots of trees in the James River December 30, was identified positively Sunday by friends, according to advices received by Cincinnati relatives.